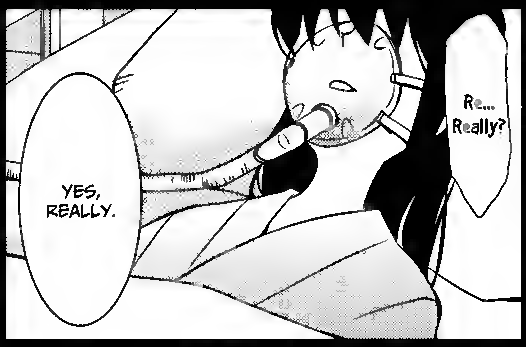
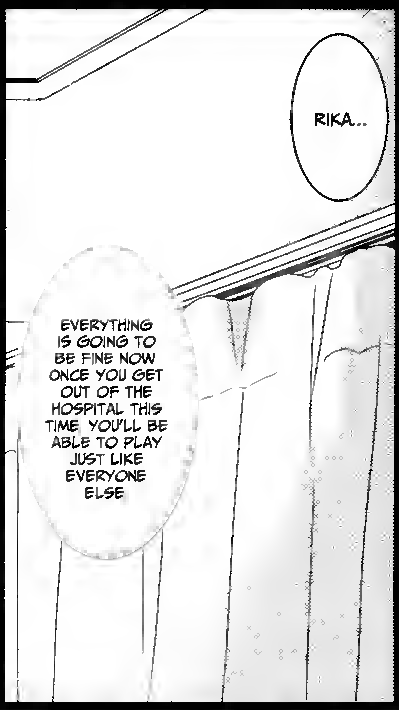

Re... Really?
YES, REALLY.


RIKA...
EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE FINE NOW ONCE YOU GET OUT OF THE HOSPITAL THIS TIME YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE

Hey... Mom...
WHAT IS IT?

What... about... Dad?

episode.3

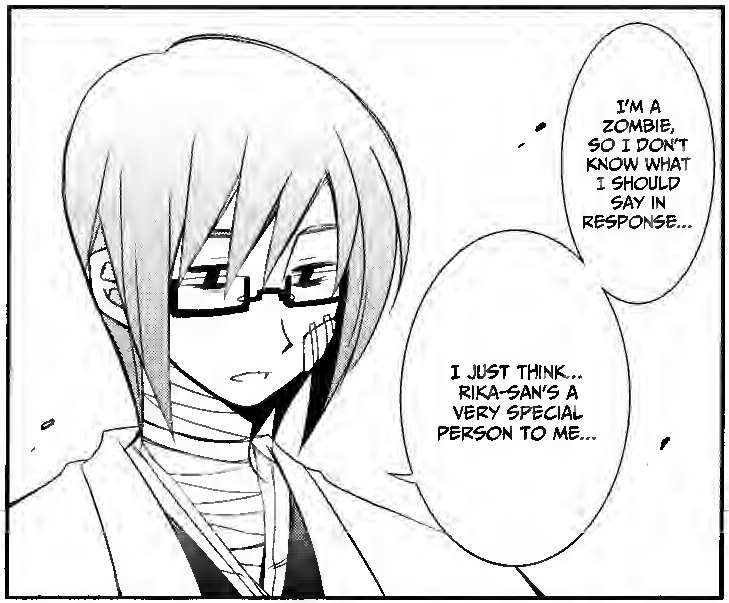
QU-QUICK!!
RI-RIKA?!
CALM DOWN.
I-I SEE. WELL THEN, I'M-
PLEASE WAIT.
YOU ASKED MASA-HIRO?!
JUST TO MAKE SURE, I ASKED SAKURAI-SENSEI, WHO WAS STILL IN THE STAFF ROOM, TO LOOK OUTSIDE.
CALL RIKA'S HOUSE...
DONE THAT.
I ALREADY SEARCH-ED.
LET'S SEARCH THE SCHOOL GROUNDS...
WELL, SHE MUST BE SOME PLACE YOU HAVEN'T LOOKED...

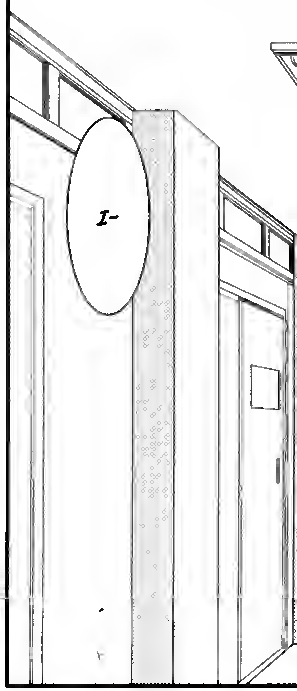
IT'S THAT... IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT RIKA
JUST AS ONE STUDENT OUT OF MANY...
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR WITH YOU...
EH?
SO SHE TOLD ME TO SEARCH...
It's nothing but couples.
I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T CARE ABOUT RIKA AT ALL.

SO... THAT'S ENOUGH!
WHA- BUT...
WELL, SHE SAID RIKA'S WEARING GYM CLOTHES, SO I THINK SHE'D BE IN A PLACE WHERE SHE WOULDN'T BE SEEN.
like the restroom...?
I- ID?! WHY DO YOU NEED SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!!
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
LISTEN, I'M SUPPOSED TO REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS IN THE PARK-
I'M NOT SUSPICIOUS AT ALL, AM I?!
HUH? NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, YOU'RE SUSPICIOUS!

Inukami...
You've got the wrong person.
...
I- INUKAMI RIKA WOULD NEVER WANDER AROUND LOOKING LIKE THIS
IS THAT SO. I UNDERSTAND, INUKAMI RIKA.
That girl's a smart person after all.
...
TAJIMA TOLD ME THE REASON AS TO WHY YOU RAN OFF.
I WON'T BE REPORTING THIS TO THE SCHOOL, SO YOU'D BEST HURRY BACK.
AND ALSO...
I'M SURE KANEWO-SENSEI'S WORRIED.
OUN

KANEWO-SENSEI HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!!
HE HAS... NOTHING TO DO WITH...
HUH?
JUST BECAUSE... A ZOMBIE'S WORRIED ABOUT ME, I DON'T REALLY... EVEN...
WHAT A PAIN...
WH-WHY? WHY DID YOU MENTION KANE... THAT ZOMBIE'S NAME?!
NOT... AT ALL...
IT'S NOT FINE AT ALL!!
WHAT'S WITH EVERYBODY TREATING ZOMBIES LIKE THAT .. IF THEY'RE GOOD ON THE INSIDE, IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT?
FINE?!
Jeez, everyone is so..


I'M A ZOMBIE, SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD SAY IN RESPONSE...
I JUST THINK... RIKA-SAN'S A VERY SPECIAL PERSON TO ME...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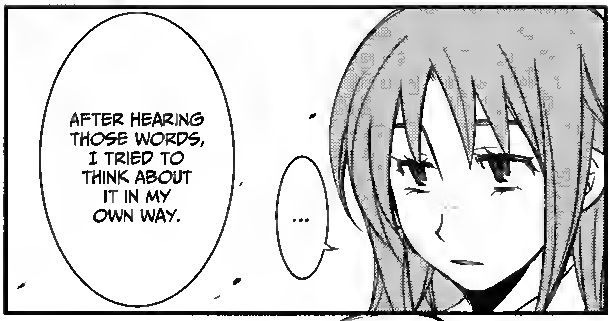

AFTER HEARING THOSE WORDS, I TRIED TO THINK ABOUT IT IN MY OWN WAY.
...

TAJIMA-SAN, YOU TOLD ME THAT RIKA-SAN'S "WEAK TO ZOMBIES."

I CONSIDERED WHAT SHE THINKS OF ME, KANEWO, AS AN INDIVIDUAL...
AND SO

SO SHE'S... SPECIAL, YOU SAY? SOMEHOW, IT'S NOT LIKE I THINK YOU'RE TRYING TO DELICATELY AVOID THE MAIN POINT, BUT...
NO... IT'S JUST...
...
IF RIKA-SAN SAYS THAT SHE HATES ME, I WON'T INTERFERE WITH HER LIFE... BUT-
YOU KNOW THAT RIKA'S HEART HAS BEEN WEAK SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD, RIGHT?
...YES.
SENSEI,
But... Ah, yes. You do see Rika as more than just another student.
YES BUT SAYING IT THAT WAY IS SOME-WHAT...

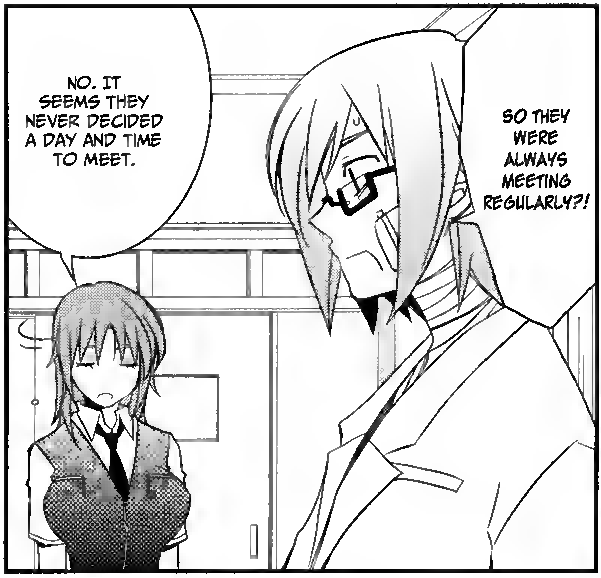
WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG, SHE HAD MANY SURGERIES.
IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE NOW, BUT SHE WAS CONSTANTLY HOSPITALIZED.
AT THAT TIME, RIKA'S FATHER WAS OVERWORKING HIMSELF..
THE SURGERIES WERE EXPENSIVE AND THINGS WERE BECOMING DIFFICULT WHILE HER FATHER WAS ALIVE.
SO HE MADE A ZOMBIE CONTRACT WITH THE STATE.
MOM...
NOW THAT I'M OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, IS DAD GOING TO COME TODAY TOO?
MOM?

AT THE TIME, IT SEEMS RIKA WAS ONLY TOLD HE HAD PASSED AWAY.
AS YOU KNOW, AFTER ZOMBIFICATION, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO EVER CONTACT YOUR FAMILY AGAIN, AND EVEN YOUR SURNAME IS ERASED.
PUBLICLY, YOU'RE TREATED AS IF YOU WERE DEAD, RIGHT?
THE STATE LIQUIDATED AND "DISPOSED OF" EVERYTHING... FOR RIKA, I THINK IT WAS BEST THAT SHE WAS ONLY TOLD HE DIED.
HAPPENED TO MEET.
BUT...
BY CHANCE, RIKA AND HER ZOMBIFIED FATHER...
YOU CAN'T MEAN...

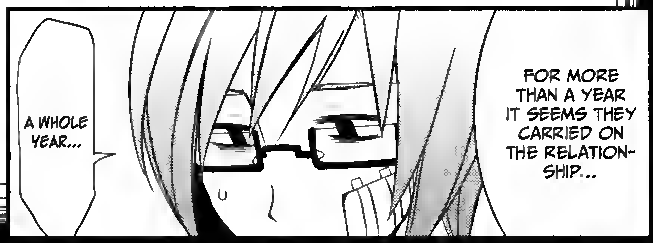
ズザー
ビクッ
DAD?!
DADDY?
SERIOUSLY?!
RI-RIKA?!
UH... UMM... DAD...?
IT'S YOU, RIGHT? WHY ARE YOU HIDING?
...
I SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SNEAK OUT AND COME ALL THE WAY TO A PLACE LIKE THIS
A CAT?!
meow~
I mean... I'm a cat!!
You're miataken I'm not your father...
ガー
I- I M BEING CORRECTED BY A CHILD?!
UMM... DAD... I THINK THAT'S SOME-THING TO SAY BEFORE YOU ARE FOUND...
Don't think let's talk either...

After hearing that story, I was sure Rika's airheaded-ness is from her father.
A cat?
BEFORE THIS, YOU USED TO SECRETLY BRING ME HERE TO THIS PARK FROM TIME TO TIME.
I THOUGHT JUST MAYBE I'D BE ABLE TO MEET WITH YOU AGAIN..
I HEARD... THAT YOU DIED. THAT'S WHAT MOM SAID, BUT... SOMEHOW I JUST COULDN'T BELIEVE IT.
BUT NOW THAT WE'RE REUNITED, WHY...
...RIKA.
...
DO YOU HATE ME NOW? BECAUSE I ALWAYS HAD TO STAY IN THE HOSPITAL?
SNIFF

RIKA!!
I.. I WON'T GO TO THE HOSPITAL ANYMORE! I'LL GET.. BETTER
RI...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY. IF YOU LIKE ME. OR HATE ME.
Wait! Why are you crying?!
Uu... UAAAN...
I'VE BEEN KEEPING THIS A SECRET FROM EVERYONE. EVEN MOM, JUST LIKE I WAS TOLD
...
BUT I REALLY WANT TO TELL MOM SOON-
creak
UH, WELL, YOU SEE... I'M NOT YOUR FATHER OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
RIGHT?!
OH, OK.
DAD'S WEIRD...
creak
creak
HEY, DAD WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS WEARING THAT BAG?
creak

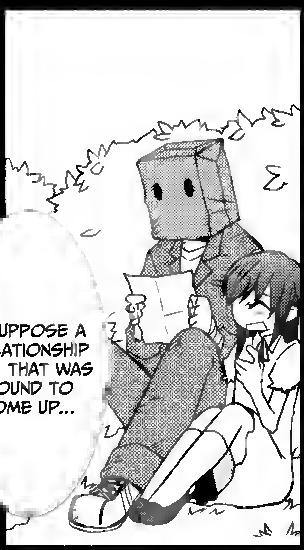

NO. IT SEEMS THEY NEVER DECIDED A DAY AND TIME TO MEET.
SO THEY WERE ALWAYS MEETING REGULARLY?!

AND THEN SHE'LL DEFI-NITELY BE REALLY HAPPY!!


A WHOLE YEAR...
FOR MORE THAN A YEAR IT SEEMS THEY CARRIED ON THE RELATION-SHIP...

WHETHER SHE COULD MEET HIM OR NOT RIKA WOULD GO TO THAT PARK WHEN SHE HAD TIME

AT THAT TIME THE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION WASN'T WATCHING CLOSELY.


I SUPPOSE A RELATIONSHIP LIKE THAT WAS BOUND TO COME UP...

...
Social Studies
RIKA'S PROBLEM GOT WORSE AND WORSE.
AND SO
100
AND AT MY LAST EXAMINATION. THE DOCTOR AT THE HOSPITAL SAID I'D BE FINE. HE EVEN SAID I CAN RUN JUST LIKE OTHER CHILDREN!
REALLY?! THAT'S GREAT TO HEAR!!
SO...
RIKA..?
UMM...
UMM... YOU KNOW... NEXT TIME... WHEN WE MEET. I'LL RUN TO YOU. I WANT YOU TO WATCH

LET'S MEET HERE NEXT TIME.
CAN WE MAKE A PROMISE?
...
RIKA...
IT WASN'T JUST A CORPSE. BUT A BELOVED PERSON WHO WAS "DISPOSED OF" NOT BY ACCIDENT. BUT DELIBERATELY.
AND THAT GIRL. CLUTCHING HERSELF. REALIZED THE WRONGNESS OF THIS SYSTEM.

I SEE... I ALSO THINK IT'S AN ABNORMAL SYSTEM.
PROBABLY WHAT RIKA REALLY HATES ISN'T ZOMBIES, BUT THAT SYSTEM. THAT'S WHAT I THINK ANYWAY.
Should be obvious to anyone really
BUT THIS COUNTRY HAS TO RELY ON THINGS LIKE THAT... IT REALLY DOES.
Anyway, feeling like that and being an idiot, that girl must be thinking now "Shit, he's a zombie and all, so they'll forcibly separate us."
Sh-Shit?
Fuu
HONESTLY, I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S RIGHT OR WRONG... BUT I'M SURE THAT THROUGH ALL THIS, I THINK RIKA'S SMILING FOR US IN HER HEART.

RIGHT OR WRONG...
MAYBE RIKA-SAN SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SEEING HER FATHER BACK THEN...
RIKA-SAN TOO... IS PROBABLY THINKING THE SAME THING.
SO THEN HER FATHER..?
IN THAT CASE... I...
THREE YEARS AGO MY LIFE ENDED. HAD I NOT BECOME A ZOMBIE LIKE THIS I WOULD NEVER HAVE MET RIKA-SAN...
IN OTHER WORDS, I...
PIP

OH?
Such conviction...
I... I'M GOING TOO!
...
SENSEI... WHAT WILL YOU DO?
RIKA'S BEEN FOUND .. I'M GOING TO BRING HER HER UNIFORM.
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL RIKA RIGHT AWAY!!
I'M NOT INUKAMI RIKA OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!!
Hey Inukami, you know the saying "Cover your head, leave your ass wide open"?
Flip

Zombie Romanticism

fevrier & Transfade

Rem

Macurai & Panda

Chara & saru

MrEngenious

Chapter 3

itadakimasu~

Pure Scans